Tuesday

Schddliche Warheit, ich ziehe sie vor dem nutzlichen Irrthum.
Warheit heilet den Schmerz, den sie vielleicht in uns erregt.™
(ForBarres.)

It is raining pitchforks. Closeted in the greenhouse with Goethe's poems, surrounded by golden yellow calceolarias, without fever, without anxieties, without desires, I enjoy a PERFECT FELICITY.

June

I find here this notebook abandoned last November. In Paris I left others begun in the interval. One in particular (blue cover) kept conscientiously from day to day, from my return from Hendaye to my leaving for Cuverville.

Today, the 13th of June, on the first day of good weather, I am writing outside, rather uncomfortably seated, and considerably bothered by my dog. Since we have been here, the almost incessant rain, ruining the garden, has helped my work. Every day I have been able to add a few lines to my *Forte etroite.*[15]1 prefer such regular assiduity today to the finest inspiration in the world.

Between sessions of work I read German and Italian (*Werther* and the *Vita Nuova).™* This morning the manuscript of the translation of *Paludes* arrived.[17]

This evening I finished the first part of *Werther.* I finish also Leon Bloy's *Journal (Quatre ans de captivite)*[1S] and resume with delight Stendhal's *Journal* I should like to write an article on Bloy; it seems to me that no one has as yet written about him as he deserves.

Finished reading (day before yesterday) Tristan Bernard's charming book: *Amantsetvoleurs**[9]

Thursday, 14 June

Visit to La Perouse. He asks rapidly for news of me and of others, but doesn't listen to my replies, and abruptly:

*Tfou have to admit that there is something diabolic in the human

[14] *Harmful truth, I prefer thee to useful error. Truth cures the pain that it may cause in us.* (Goethe: **Ge-***fMite, vterJahreszeiten: Herbst,* 49. In the Weimar edition, Vol. I, p. 352.)

[15] *Strait Is the Gate,* first published in 1909.

[ie] By Goethe and Dante respectively.

[ir] The German translation by Felix-Paul Gr&ve of *Morasses.*

[18] *Four "Years of Captivity at Cochons-sur-Marne (*1905) is the third vol-ume of Bloy's eight-volume *Journal.*

[19] *Lovers and Robbers,*